



# Montgomery County Council

*From the Office of Councilmember Nancy Floreen*

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**For Immediate Release**

**May 27, 2004**

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## **FLOREEN INTRODUCES BILL TO CHANGE PROCESS FOR TRANSPORTATION FARES, FEES, AND FINES**

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Councilmember Nancy Floreen today introduced legislation that will change the County's process for setting transportation-related fees and fines. Councilmember Floreen stated, "Currently, transportation fares, fees, and fines are set by the Executive Branch with virtually no public input. I do not believe that is a fair procedure. My initiative would have Ride On bus fares, parking fees and fines, as well as residential parking permits fees set by the Council by regulation requiring a public hearing. It is incumbent upon elected officials to hear from the public before we set these costs.

"My other concern with our present system has the Council making budget assumptions based on our recommended fees only to have these decisions disregarded. The Council is the purse strings of the Government. We create the final shape of the budget, and these fees and fares are an integral part of our work. Therefore, it makes perfect sense that we should be setting them."

Councilmembers Tom Perez and George Leventhal are co-sponsors of the bill. A public hearing on the legislation will be held on the afternoon of June 22.